

CLAIMS

1. Use of a reducing-sugar monomer, whose hydroxyl function is substituted by an alkoxy radical at C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>40</sub>, as a  
5 medicament.

2. The use according to claim 1, wherein, in the reducing-sugar monomer, the substituted hydroxyl function is the anomeric hydroxyl function.

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3. The use according to either of the preceding claims, wherein the alkoxy radical comprises from 5 to 12 carbon atoms.

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4. The use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the reducing sugar is selected from the group comprised of rhamnose, fucose and glucose.

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5. The use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the medicament is intended to regulate inflammatory mechanisms.

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6. The use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the medicament is intended for the prevention or treatment of allergic, inflammatory or immune reactions or pathologies of the skin and/or mucous membranes.

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7. The use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the medicament is intended to inhibit the immune response related to inflammatory stress.

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8. The use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the medicament is intended to inhibit the activation of leucocytes, the secretion of keratinocytic cytokines, the keratinocytic hyperplasia phenomenon, antigen processing by the dendritic cells of the skin, the maturation of antigen-

presenting cells and the recognition phenomenon between lymphocytes and antigen-presenting cells.

9. The use according to any of the preceding claims,  
5 wherein the medicament is intended for the prevention or treatment of diseases chosen from the group comprised of atopic and/or contact eczema, inflammatory dermatoses, irritant dermatitis, acne, autoimmune diseases such as psoriasis, photo-immunosuppression, vitiligo, pityriasis,  
10 sclerodermas, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease and graft rejection.

10. The use according to any of the claims 1 to 5, wherein the medicament is intended for the prevention and  
15 treatment of age-related chronic inflammatory problems and their consequences.

11. The use according to claim 10, wherein the medicament is intended for the prevention or treatment of diseases chosen from the group comprised of anaphylactic sensitivities, pigmentary anomalies of the skin, dermal hypervascularity and inflammatory fissuring.

12. The use according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein  
25 the medicament is intended to reduce the allergenic and/or irritant character of a composition or perfume...

13. The use according to any of the preceding claims,  
wherein the medicament contains from 0.001% to 50% by weight  
30 of the aforementioned reducing-sugar monomer.

14. A method for the cosmetic treatment of skin and/or mucous membranes that are sensitive, irritated, intolerant, of an allergic tendency, aged, exhibiting danger signs, exhibiting a disorder of the cutaneous barrier, exhibiting cutaneous redness or exhibiting a non-pathological immunological imbalance related to intrinsic, extrinsic or

hormonal aging, wherein it consists of applying to the skin and/or the mucous membranes a composition comprised of at least one reducing-sugar monomer whose hydroxyl function, advantageously the anomeric hydroxyl function, is substituted by an alkoxy radical at C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>40</sub>.

15. A cosmetic treatment method to slow the natural aging of the skin and/or to prevent the accelerated aging of skin subjected to external attacks, in particular to prevent photo-induced aging of the skin, wherein it consists of applying to the skin a composition comprised of at least one reducing-sugar monomer whose hydroxyl function, advantageously the anomeric hydroxyl function, is substituted by an alkoxy radical at C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>40</sub>.

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16. A cosmetic treatment method according to claim 14 or 15, wherein the reducing sugar is chosen from the group comprised of rhamnose, fucose and glucose.

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17. A cosmetic treatment method according to any of the claims 14 to 16, wherein the alkoxy radical comprises from 5 to 12 carbon atoms.